

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**Contact:**

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Health Department releases COVID-19 Prevention and Control *Community Expectations*

Eau Claire, WI- October 16, 2020 11:17 AM- The Eau Claire-City County Health Department released *Community Expectations* yesterday. This document replaces the Eau Claire County Local Prevention Order and details out public health expectations for community members and businesses/workplaces/organizations to slow the spread of COVID-19 in our community.

The disease has not changed. Our community remains in the high-risk category for disease spread. Our community has partnered for many months now, under the Local Order, to prevent an out-of-control rapid spread of disease. The expectations in this document remain consistent with the basic public health principles that were in the Order. We are counting on everyone seeing shared ownership in supporting a healthier community.

This document shares proven strategies for community members, for public and private spaces and for public and private gatherings to slow the spread of COVID-19. These strategies are similar to what has been included previously in our local Order. **Note that all organizations (such as schools, businesses, childcares) have the same expectations in this document that have been under the local order previously.** One change is that we lay out the expectation to keep gatherings small—any public or private gathering of more than 25 people is strongly discouraged.

COVID-19 is not going away anytime soon, the season of respiratory diseases has just started. It's up to all of us to take action to prevent further spread and help our community get through this. In order to make progress forward, we all need to follow these community expectations and do our part to slow the spread, so we don't have increased disease, hospitalizations and death from COVID-19 this fall/winter.

- More information on the Eau Claire City-County Health Department COVID-19 Prevention and Control – Community Expectation document may be viewed here: <https://coronavirus-and-covid-19-information-hub-eccounty.hub.arcgis.com/pages/local-prevention>
- Data related to COVID-19 disease status and community preparedness is available here: <https://coronavirus-and-covid-19-information-hub-eccounty.hub.arcgis.com/pages/local-statistics>

- Please visit the covid19eauclaire.org website for more information. Questions from the public may be directed to the COVID-19 Call Center: 715-831-7425.

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Promoting health and safety for all Eau Claire communities